

## west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Environmental Advocate Youth Environmental Program 601 57<sup>th</sup> Street, SE Charleston, WV 25304 Phone: 304-926-0441 Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary dep.wv.gov

March 4, 2022

Dear Educators,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite your students and staff to attend the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's 2022 Earth Day Celebration. This event is free and will be held on the terrace in front of the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia in Charleston on April 20, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Should the weather not cooperate, we will move the event indoors.

Since we missed the celebration of Earth Day turning 50, we are excited to announce that the WVDEP has partnered with the Clay Center to make this year's Earth Day celebration our greatest yet. As part of our partnership, we can offer free access to the Caperton Planetarium and Theater to view a short, educational film. We are also able to offer free access to explore the Avampato Discovery Museum. However, space to these events may be limited so register with the Clay Center soon!

Approximately 20 exhibitors from various state and federal agencies will be on hand with educational displays and activities promoting environmental stewardship and resource conservation. Exhibitors will include DEP's Watershed Improvement Branch, Youth Environmental Program, REAP Recycling Program and West Virginia American Water Company. Also expected are the USDA Forest Service, Three Rivers Avian Center, WV Conservation District's Soil Tunnel Trailer, and the DEP's Division of Air Quality.

Earth Day is a terrific learning opportunity for elementary school children. If a group from your school would like to attend, please request registration information at <a href="mailto:groupreservations@theclaycenter.org">groupreservations@theclaycenter.org</a> or register with the Clay Center by contacting their box office at 304-561-3570. Thank you for your time, and I hope to see you on Earth Day.

Sincerely,

Annette Hoskins

Youth Environmental Program Director